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~~ER 7-3006~~

Called by Mr. [unclear] 1/27/56
27 January 1956

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for National Estimates
Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence
Research + Reports

THROUGH: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: Implementation of Killian Report, NSC Action 1430:
Specific Recommendation A. 9

1. By virtue of its action on 4 August 1955 (number 1430) the NSC "noted that the responsible agencies have concurred either in full or with qualifications in the following recommendations and will implement them as indicated in the comments." The comments as far as this Agency is concerned have been embodied in a memorandum from the DCI to Executive Secretary of the NSC dated 6 June 1955 under the subject of "NSC Action 1355" (TS #103738).

2. Specific Recommendation A. 9 of the Killian Report reads as follows:

"As a first step in comparing the capabilities and vulnerabilities of the United States and the USSR in a possible nuclear air war, a comprehensive comparison of U.S. and USSR Bravo, Romeo, and Delta targets systems be undertaken in the context of a single symmetric study, using common terms of reference and a common framework of analysis."

This recommendation is one on which the primary responsibility was assigned to other agencies (specifically, the Department of Defense) subject to coordination with CIA. The secondary role which falls on CIA rests on OSI. For your information the Department of Defense comment on this recommendations is as follows:

"The Secretary of Defense concurs in principle with the objectives indicated by the Panel recommendation. The Joint Chiefs of Staff state that such a study might, on balance, prove valuable; however, it is considered

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that a preliminary study involving a limited number of major objectives, using common terms of reference and a common framework of analysis should be undertaken with a view to determining the value of a more comprehensive study. It is noted that such a study would be useful to the Net Capabilities Evaluation Subcommittee of the National Security Council."

3. In the event that the Department of Defense has not taken any initiative to consult on this matter or to indicate what they expect of us, I suggest that you make appropriate inquiries. I would appreciate being kept abreast of developments on this recommendation and if I can be of any assistance please let me know.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, Jr.
Special Assistant to the Director
for Planning and Coordination

PCS/DCI:JQR:aml (27 Jan 1956)

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